(b) No Sir. The stretch passes along the periphery of Mowgli - Pench sanctuary via Mohagoan - Rukhar - Kurai section of NH-7 between Seoni and Nagpur.

(c) No Sir. Mitigative measures proposed/advised by forest department have been incorporated.

(d) Central Empowered Committee, after a series of hearings has referred the matter for consideration of Hon'ble Supreme Court. A final decision would be taken only after decision of Hon'ble Supreme Court.

Construction of road per day

2063.SHRIMATI T. RATNA BAI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only a mere 4 km are constructed every day;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the target set to achieve more 15 km per day; and

(d) the additional funds to be allocated for this purpose in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI R.P.N. SINGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. During the last five years from 01.06.2004 to 31.05.2009, about 7,759 kms of highways has been completed under National Highways Development Project (NHDP) for 4/6 laning, which works out about 4 kms per day. The reasons for delay in implementation is mainly due to problems associated with land acquisition, shifting of utilities, clearances for ROBs, poor performance of contractors, law & order problem in some states. Award of projects was also affected due to inability of the developers to raise necessary finance on account of prevailing economic downturn.

(c) It is planned to complete four-laning of about 3165 km of National Highways and award of projects for a length of 9800 km during 2009-10.

(d) No state-wise allocation of funds is made under NHDP. Project expenditure in states including in Andhra Pradesh is met out of overall allocation to National Highways Authority of India.

Upgradation of State highways in Gujarat

2064.SHRI KANJIBHAI PATEL:
SHRI NATUJI HALAJI THAKOR:
SHRI PARSHOTTAM KHODABHAI RUPALA:
Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government of Gujarat has been since long requesting to Government of India for upgradation of State Highways and proposal for upgradation of 41 State Highways (5480 km length) submitted to Government of India;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto and the present status of the proposal;